

CONCLUSION

Paragraph 0048 of the written description has been amended. No new matter is added. The amendment removes material inadvertently left in the application.

Attached is a marked-up version showing the amendments in a document entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE". If there are any questions, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 451-5902 to expedite prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on May 6, 2002.

Date: 5/6/02

Signature



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

[0048] In general, stable component 130 differs from transient component 140 in that the digital representation component defined by stable component 130 is based on a longer temporal history (i.e., longer time scale) than that of transient component 140. That is, the parameters of stable component 130 reflect the "stability" of image data in each incrementally established digital representation. The terms "stability" and "stable" are used herein to describe image data values that remain relatively unchanged over a relatively long time scale (e.g., over five [[or ten?]] or more sequential image frames). In contrast, the parameters of transient component 140 reflect the relative transience of image data in each incrementally established digital representation. Thus, the term "transient" is used herein to describe image data values that are unstable (e.g., outliers), or image data that has been stable for only a relatively short time scale (e.g., less than five [[or ten?]] sequential image frames). For example, in the exemplary embodiment provided below, W component 140A operates in a manner similar to a conventional 2-frame motion estimator in that its parameters are calculated using only a current image frame and the image frame immediately preceding the current image frame. In alternative embodiments, W component 140A may be modified to compare data from a small number (e.g., two or three) of frames preceding the current frame. Alternatively, as described in the exemplary embodiment provided below, L component 140B is utilized to store outlier data, and is therefore updated using data from only one image frame (i.e., the current frame).